MEMORIES OF EARLY YOUTH
INDIAN REVENGE AND SAVAGERY

My earliest recollection was after Dad bought two ranches with a quarter section of land lying between which Father filed a homestead later on. There was barely 10 acres fenced on the two lower places which was on the lower place where we lived. Roads criss-crossed in all directions through the sage brush. About one-eighth of a mile from our house was an Indian village, consisting of four teepees in which lived the families of Piute Sam, Big Jim, Mark and Little Sam. Piute Sam had two boys, about the ages of my brother Owen and myself. Mark, one boy was some older than Owen, and Little Sam, about my age, but Big Jim had no boys. As time went on we finally began to play with those nameless boys which Owen called Piute Sam's boys. We learned later they were called Jimmie and Jack. Mark's boy was Johnnie and Little Sam's boy was Pat. These boys couldn't speak a word of English but we wrestled with them and played a few of their games. Soon we began to learn a few words of Piute and they learned some English. By them making a few signs we managed very well.

One norning we went there and found the boys jubilant and excited. Their fathers had gone on a mission. They tried to tell us what it was all about but we could only get a faint idea. They pointed across the river which was in Washo Territory and said something like this: "Madalow waw way mama loos mahala."(Men talk kill squaw). This was not to us, but we went home and told what we heard knowing it was some kind of a tragedy. Now I will relate the incident and what it led up to as told by the older Indians.

Piute Sam had two mahalas, Mollie and Susie. Mollie was the mother of Jimmie and Jack. Susie had no children. It seems when Susie was a very young girl, her father was brutally killed by a Piute who at once fled into Washo Territory. After about 25 years

spent around Markleville in Washo he yearned to go back thinking animosity against him had died through the years. He went back to Antelope Valley. On learning that the Indian was seen at the Coleville Store, Piute Sam with three Indians took Susie, went across the river, found the Indian in the store, grabbed and tied him. They carried him to a Nut Pine Tree and bound him to the tree. With savage instinct for revenge Susie was given a club and she beat him to death. Some said it was an ax she used. However his head was beaten to a pulp.